

Patent

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: David Hands, et al.

Serial No.: 10/511,691

Case No.: 20974YP

Art Unit:

. 1626 . Examiner:

Filed: October 14, 2004

Rebecca L. Anderson

For

PROCESS FOR THE SYNTHESIS OF 5[[2(R)-[1(R)-[3,5-BIS(TRIFLUOROMETHYL)PHENYL]ETHOXY]-3(S)-(4-FLUOROPHENYL)-4-MORPHOLINYL]-

METHYL]1,2-DIHYDRO-3H-1,2,4-TRIAZOL-3-ONE

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Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Sir:

With reference to the Official Action made final mailed October 15, 2007, Applicants' response transmitted January 15, 2008, and the Advisory Action mailed January 31, 2008, the Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the application in view of the following amendments and remarks that are being submitted with a Request for Continued Examination.

This Amendment and Request for Continued Examination is accompanied by a Petition for a one-month Extension of Time. Any additional fees associated with this Response may be charged to Merck Deposit Account No. 13-2755.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this response. Remarks begin on page 6 of this response.

EXPRESS MAIL CERTIFICATE

DATE OF DEPOSIT_

DIPRESS MAIL NO. SO DHOT LOST HE IN HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS CORRESPONDENCE IS BEING DEPOSITED WITH THE UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE AS EXPRESS MAIL "POST OFFICE TO ADDRESSED TO ON THE ABOVE DATE IN AN ENVELOPE ADDRESSED TO COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS, P.O. BOX 1450.

ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA 22313-1450.

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DATE